

**IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF COOK COUNTY
COUNTY DEPARTMENT, CHANCERY DIVISION**

GENERAL ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER NO. 2012-05

SUBJECT: STANDING RECUSALS IN MORTGAGE FORECLOSURE CASES

Three judges currently assigned to the Mortgage Foreclosure/Mechanics Lien Section of the Chancery Division have standing conflicts that require immediate recusal from cases in which certain institutions are participating parties. Those judges are Honorable Alfred M. Swanson, Jr., Honorable Laura C. Liu, and Honorable Jean Prendergast Rooney, assigned to Calendars 55, 56, and 60, respectively. Each judge has entered a standing order in which the judge has recused himself or herself, pursuant to Supreme Court Rule 63(C)(1), from all cases involving certain parties due to his or her prior relationship with the entities. (The standing orders are attached hereto as Group Exhibit A.) Due to the high volume of cases heard in the Mortgage Foreclosure/Mechanics Lien Section, a more efficient procedure is needed to effectuate a reassignment of the case to another calendar through the randomization process and to avoid unnecessary additional court appearances for all parties.

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED:

1. Commencing April 16, 2012, a plaintiff will be allowed to come before the Presiding Judge of the Chancery Division for a random reassignment of the case to another Mortgage Foreclosure Calendar if the following requirements are met:
 - (a) The case is randomly assigned to Calendar 55, Calendar 56, or Calendar 60 at the time of filing;
 - (b) The case involves an entity designated in the respective standing order, as plaintiff or defendant, requiring recusal by the judge assigned to the calendar;
 - (c) The entity that is the subject of the judge's standing order for recusal is identified in the caption of the case, the motion, and the motion has a copy of the judge's standing order attached to it as an exhibit;
 - (d) The plaintiff is requesting the reassignment prior to the automatically scheduled case management date; and
 - (e) No appearance has been filed by any defendant.

If all of the above requirements are met, the plaintiff may come to the courtroom of the Presiding Judge of the Chancery Division for filing, presentment and immediate reassignment to another calendar through entry of the attached order.

